Central share. It is estimated that about 16200 vessels have derived benefit under the scheme during 1991-92.

II. DEEP SEA FISHING SECTOR

Recognising the role of the deep sea fishing industry as a potential export oriented industry the Government of India had extended several concessions to this industry to augment its production. These included subsidy of upto 33 per cent of the cost of indigenously constructed vessels, soft loans at low interest rates for the acquisition of fishing vessels, diesel subsidy of Rs. 1.6 per litre of fuel consumed or 10 per cent of the FOB value of exports, whichever is less, duty free imports for inputs/ equipments, other benefits as applicable to export oriented units, etc.

Mexican deep sea fishing vessels

2693. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) number of Mexican deep-sea fishing vessels financed by SDFC which are lying idle in Visakhapatnam Port;

(b) whether Government have made any effort to extend rehabilitation and revival schemes for these fishing vessels;

(c) whether Government have convened a joint meeting of SCICI and the entrepreseneurs from Andhra Pradesh to discuss ways of reviving and operating these Mexican vessels

(d) the details thereof; and

(e) whether any financial assistance is likely to be given to workers on these vessels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): This information is not available since the number of vessels lying idle varies from day-to-day. Also, some vessels would be in port on a particular day in between voyages for repairs or for dry-docking.

(b) The rehabilitation schemes announced by the Government of India are aimed at reviving all the sick but potentially viable deep sea fishing companies assisted by the erstwhile SDFC.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir. The Government of India has no such scheme.

Programme for economic development of North Eastern by NERAMAC

2694. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what programme for economic development of the North Eastern has been taken up by North Eastern Agricultural Marketing Cooperation Limited, a Government of India undertaking to help the producers in Agriculture and Horticulture Sector;

(b) what benefits accrued to the people concerned out of this programme;

(c) the number of fruit processing units which are operating in that region;

(d) if production has started what is the value of turnover;

(e) to what extent the marketing facilities have reached; and

(f) whether the products of the NERAMAC are exported; if so, the Foreign exchange earned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. (NERAMAC) has set up a Fruit Processing Plant in North Tripura